

## CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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Maybe the heavy cost of the war is due to the large number of men working at \$1 a year.

Billy Sunday seems to have met his match at Chicago. He confesses to the Lord that he is tired.

The time rapidly drawing nigh in which hellish days will be more sought after than feared.

Southern farmers seem awake to the importance of continuing to raise more food crops and live stock.

Seed potatoes are cheaper than last year. It would be a good plan to increase your plantings accordingly.

Delaware is the ninth state—and the fourth one which is now wet—to ratify the prohibition amendment.

It is seriously suspected that the Mole St. Nicholas correspondent is now sojourning temporarily in Berlin.

That birth control doctor who failed to practice what he preached would be equally as unpopular in Germany.

The death of another congressman is added to the already long list of fatalities attending the present congress.

It seems that John D. Rockefeller has a personal property tax fight on his hands every time he goes out to Cleveland.

Texas around Abilene are very much in earnest about raising food supplies. They are already praying for rain.

The Jacksonville Times-Union intimates that Senator New, of Indiana, is a different character from Senator Knew.

Another one of our exchanges suggests that "while waiting for the German drive the allies might do a little driving."

No recent tidings have been received of Edward Markham, but the man with the hoe is again having his laming.

Stealing \$200 worth of thrift stamps at Knoxville indicates that even thieves know a good thing when they see it.

That spring drive seems to be gradually wearing off. Would be a good time about now to put Berlin on the gridiron.

Advance of a half mile on a front nearly a mile long is probably the French method of inviting Hindenburg to Paris.

The defense of the location of army camps in the south is a matter which might very well wait until the close of the war.

At last the Atlantic coast shipyards are beginning the launching of wooden ships. May the number available rapidly increase.

"Seizure of Dutch Ships Justified By Precedent"—Headline. That's all right, if we can only get the Dutch to understand it that way.

Public announcement has not yet been made that the president has succeeded in "swinging" Tennessee's senior senator for suffrage.

The origin of trench fever has been discovered. Old soldiers of this country have met him, but his name is not often spoken in polite society.

It is not probable that the Russian revolution will win much sympathy among thoughtful people through indignities put upon the ex-czar and his family.

It is said that other members of the cabinet may go to Europe. This would seem to indicate that the need of ship room for foodstuffs is not so urgent as we had been told.

War, like politics, may sometimes make strange bedfellows. For instance, we were thinking of Lenin's sojourn at Moscow, the home of the Russian bourgeoisie.

Noting the discovery that ships can be built of concrete, the Savannah News declares that when we learn that first-class ships can be built on paper we shall begin making progress.

The Montgomery Advertiser congratulates itself that one more assembly of "democrats" can be held to consider methods of "beating the amendment" before such assemblies are made unlawful. Probably no great deal of attention will be paid to the approaching meeting, but it will soon be too late to hold similar ones.

## HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

When Napoleon was at the height of his power after the battle of Friedland in 1807 he issued the famous decree of Berlin, and attempted to establish what was called the "continental system." The decree was to the effect that no ships from Great Britain were to be permitted to trade in any continental port of Europe. The effort was thus made to freeze the United Kingdom entirely out of the commerce of other countries of Europe. Great Britain retaliated by an order in council which forbade any neutral country's ship landing in a French port unless it had first gotten permission in England. Our trade with France was considerable and this was one of the causes of the war of 1812 in which we engaged. Sweden was one of the first of the continental countries to break away from the continental system. After Napoleon's retreat from Moscow, Prussia, Austria and Holland also repudiated the agreements.

During that period there wasn't much international law. It was a good deal as it is today. Great Britain ruled at sea, Napoleon had the land forces. The only rule observed by nations was that he who was not a friend was an enemy. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson had done their utmost to establish neutrality as the American policy. But both France and England transgressed our rights so much that in 1799 we were in a state of war with France, though no declaration was ever made, and finally, under President Madison, we rose in arms against the continued imprisonment of American seamen and other outrages by England.

It was during that period that Lord Nelson sailed into the port of Copenhagen, engaged and captured the Danish fleet and transferred it to England. The English were in possession of evidence, they said, that Napoleon was going to make just such a seizure himself.

The taking over of the Dutch shipping today is almost of a class with this. Holland is having the same difficulty in maintaining neutrality that we had a century ago. But for its South sea colonies no doubt the Dutch would have entered the war before this. The requisition of the Dutch shipping, however, is not necessarily a violation of international law. Prussia did much the same with British shipping in 1870. The Germans will probably seize the Dutch barges on the Rhine as a counter stroke. At every step little Wilhelm's country is in the goat. In a day of such important issues, however, this sort of thing doesn't arouse sympathy as it might before. We trust, indeed, that there will now be no further delay in furnishing food for the Dutch, as their needs are pressing.

## A GOOD RECORD.

An army surgeon just returning from France says he lived there weeks billeted in French families and visited cantonnements. He says as to the conduct of our soldiers:

"At the present time the American soldier who is over in France—the regular national guardsman, the national army man—is an entirely different chap from the one we have ever known before. He truly feels that he represents the honor of his country and the glory of the flag. He is lifted out of himself and is more nearly superhuman than I have ever seen the American soldier in my life."

"Of course we have to realize that if the soldier has certain vices and failings such as we have heard of, those same failings and vices exist in the town from which that man came. But owing to the exalted frame of mind in which the American soldier now finds himself abroad, those vices and failings are extremely small. He can get anything to drink in France, and there is plenty to drink right in the house where he is, yet I did not see a single drunken man all the time I was in France."

As additional evidence of the exemplary behavior of American soldiers abroad, the speaker cited the case in which a French woman confidently entrusted her daughter, who was proceeding to Paris, to the care of a body of American privates from one of the engineering regiments on the strength of what she had seen of American troops quartered in her own city.

After telling the story, which had come under his own personal observation, the officer pointed to it as amply refuting the alarmist reports that had reached this country from France.

"It is perfectly obvious to anyone who sees our American boys in the camps abroad," he added, "that the young men of this generation are far better behaved and have far higher ideals than those of my generation when we were of their age."

Right from the beginning the strictest discipline has been maintained. The only American so far shot for an offense in France was a soldier who while drunk outraged a child. The court-martial promptly convicted him and Gen. Pershing approved the findings. That is the spirit of the American army. It will do much to endear the French people to Americans for all time to come.

The Louisville Evening Post declares that "we are all growing old" and it does not want to wait for the revolution in Russia to work itself out. The Post thinks a little missionary work might be done by the allies on the west front.

An exchange calls attention to the fact that Odessa, which is reported captured, is the capital of the Ukraine, whose independence Germany has acknowledged and with which she has made a treaty of "peace."

Judge Sanford is quoted by one of our East Tennessee exchanges as promising to send to the attorney anybody caught distilling foodstuffs into liquor.

## THE UBIQUITOUS BOOTLEGGER.

The following paragraph from the Denver News has a very familiar sound:

"As for Cheyenne, we would like to see it mend its ways, but it is not for us to advise it regarding its internal economies. But if the public men and officers of the law would put their feet down on the bootlegging industry and join with Colorado's constabulary to destroy it, there would be no trouble. Just now there is much profit in the illegal sale of booze over the borderline, and on that account travelers from there must undergo certain restrictions."

Wyoming is the only one of the Rocky mountain states which remains wet. Cheyenne—"old Cheyenne"—is situated near the Colorado border and has been making big profits from the business of irrigating the Centennial State. But it seems that Colorado legal authorities got wise to the situation and inaugurated a campaign to spoil the fun. Since Wyoming would not see to it that exportations were stopped, it was up to Colorado to head off importations. And that is just what has been going on. And, as a consequence, Cheyenne's feelings are hurt. That town does not think it has been treated with the consideration due an obliging neighbor. But Denver politely invites Cheyenne to mend its ways.

We can imagine that Jacksonville, Fla., may feel a little resentful toward Georgia or South Carolina towns if these latter watch incoming express shipments too closely—for the governor of South Carolina recently urged the governor of Florida to dam up the flow. We suspect also that New Orleans would prefer that Texas and Mississippi should not be too critical about what crosses their border lines. Those who have read the Scriptures probably recall that St. Paul was once greeted by the Ephesian silversmiths for two hours with the cry, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians," much as Mr. Bryan was greeted at Toronto and for practically the same reasons. Somebody's trade was being jostled.

Many similar situations exist—and have existed—over the country, but the end draweth nigh. The time is coming soon when communities which do not want the liquor traffic carried on in their midst will not be harassed with the task of shutting it out from places that find it profitable. The business against which outlaw legislation has been making steady progress for many years will soon be in the position of Noah's dove. God speed the day.

## NORTH AND SOUTH.

That the north considers itself much superior to the south in the handling of the race problem is proverbial. Its people and its newspapers have professed a lofty altruism while deprecating the south's alleged barbarity. It is amusing, therefore, to watch the antics of these holier-than-thou paragons when something occurs to suggest that even their feet are of clay. One instance will be cited by way of illustration.

A few days ago a negro workman in Springfield, Mass., was discharged by his foreman because white workmen refused to work with him. Instead of going his way and looking for another job he spilled the beans by arming himself with a pistol and shooting one of the objectors. The whole thing came out and something had to be done to sustain the north's self-assumed reputation for interest in the colored brother. It would never do for it to be noted down south that a negro had been goaded by refusal of an opportunity to earn his bread into committing a murderous assault—and in the state of William Lloyd Garrison at that.

The Springfield Republican, a splendid newspaper, is published there. It makes an effort to be fair. But it is not entirely free from New England Puritanism. It wanted to know right off what was wrong. So it proceeded to hunt up the offending foreman, who, when he was made to understand, declared that he had been "misinformed"—that "only two out of thirty-five workmen concerned objected to the presence of the colored mechanic." The northern character was vindicated, only an inconsiderable fraction being inoculated with the southern mania! The two must have been as demonstrative as a bullfrog in a pond to convince the foreman that they voiced a popular demand!

Southern people have always contended that they love the negro in close contact about as well as their brethren of the north. They may not eat with him and sleep with him, but they are perfectly willing that he shall have a chance to work for a living. The Republican feels the force of this insistence and remarks: "When one observes the restricted field of the negro in industrial and commercial pursuits in the north it is not easy to controvert the southern contention." And of course, it feels that the "contention" ought to be "controverted."

The south is not quite so hypocritical in its attitude toward the negro as the north, but there is much of humane and considerate treatment for both sections to learn. But subjecting the south to invidious comparisons doesn't help the matter a bit. The south's record has not always been creditable, but the north's is only better because it has had less of the problem to grapple with.

The sinking of its merchant fleet of one ship has not left Switzerland in the very best of humor. The vessel was loaded with wheat, and the Swiss like to eat as well as other folks.

## THE COAL SITUATION.

There is a distinct feeling of alarm in some parts of the country over the fuel situation. Warning has been given by the fuel administration that the shortage next winter will probably be greater than last. Consumers are advised to buy early, but are only permitted to buy one-half their year's needs. But what is causing greatest uneasiness is the fact that the mine output is not increasing but diminishing. Following the latest regulations promulgated by the fuel administration, it is claimed that the less profitable mines are being closed down. It is claimed that the uniform price fixed operates to the advantage of the larger, better situated mines, while it causes a loss to the isolated and thinner veins. And these observations are noted at a time when it is extremely desirable, even necessary, that production of coal be greatly expanded.

A western paper, published in a coal-producing state, can see nothing else for it than a pooling of the mines with a consequent division of the profits. It says:

"Under normal conditions it would not be thought of to pool the coal production and pay to each mine a stated price, letting the larger and more fortunately situated mines share with the others the profits on the price decreed by the government. But all our working conditions are abnormal in these times. The very fact that the federal fuel administrator makes the price proves that we are living under extraordinary economic conditions and modification of the old rules regarding supply and demand and competition and 'the survival of the fittest' is now the state—the nation—not the individual. Property rights are government rights."

"In such case would it not be well to bring all the coal produced in a certain district under a pool and divide the profits, that come from the government-fixed price, according to production?"

This would follow somewhat the same plan as adopted for the handling of the railroads. Maybe it would work. We don't know. We are traveling fast, sometimes, apparently, without knowing the direction we are taking. The mines should be worked at all hazards. If private operators refuse to work them under government regulations, the regulations should be changed or the government should take charge of and operate abandoned mines. It might be wise to condemn and acquire ownership instead of temporary control of such mines as their owners will not operate.

It is apparent that matters are approaching a crisis. Government regulation must vindicate itself or abandon the attempt. It seems that the halfway station is dangerous. Outright government ownership might succeed better. Certain it is that satisfactory results are not being achieved. And something must be done or there will be suffering.

The Chicago Herald considers the passage of the "daylight-saving bill" a victory for common sense. It goes into a series of calculations to demonstrate the gains. The solution of the fuel and light problems, the question of food supply (by giving farmers more time to work), even adding two weeks to the Chicagoan's year, are mentioned as accomplishments.

It is to save Boston families \$5.50 a year on light bills, which, of course, may be invested in thrift stamps. Congress is declared to have earned the gratitude of the public in enacting the beneficent measure. It may be so. We do not wish to manifest ignorance by argument with so eminent an authority. Now that our feet have been washed, why not our heads and our hands? Why not provide for a longer season and the growth of food crops in fertile Alaska, a later autumn to provide maturity of the corn crop in the northwest and rain for the drought-stricken region of Texas? Man shall not live by light alone, but must have something to eat. Great as is the advantage to be derived from shifting the hands of the clock, the law will have to be amended to make the clock effective in delaying the coming of frost. But perhaps congress will make the necessary change before fall sets in.

It has been a custom with some young college men who have to contribute to their own expenses to spend their vacations assisting with work on the farms. Last year a farm colony was formed from Vassar girls, which proved a great success. Vassar will repeat the experiment this year, and it is announced that Wellesley will join in a similar campaign. Good for the girls!

**TO THE EDITOR**  
(Communications in this department represent the views of the writers. All matters of public interest may be discussed briefly.)

**Good Advice to Germans.**  
Ye Germans who have sought this friendly strand  
To escape the hardships of your native land,  
We bid you welcome! And we do not blame  
That you should love the land from whence you came;  
But, if you wish to serve that country well,  
Then follow this advice—Give Prussia H—!

—Stewart J. Spence.

## A Dangerous Place.

Editor The News:  
I was standing on the east side of Market street, near Seventh, looking at the people getting on the street car. The platform was full of soldiers and ladies. A soldier and lady were standing on the north end of the platform. A St. Elmo car came by, and when it turned west on Seventh street the back end of the car hit the soldier and knocked him against the lady. And both fell on the platform. I do not think they were badly hurt. After

## OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

By Condo



## THE JARR FAMILY

By Roy L. McCardell

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Mr. Jarr came gaily into the office whistling "Patric's Day," for the feel of spring was in the air, even though it has been a cheerless, wintry, meatless, heartless winter.

"You're as batty as Jenkins, the bookkeeper," said Johnson, the cashier. "Look at him playing deak golf." And he indicated the little clerk who was batting paper pellets across the top of his desk with the brass-bound ruler.

"What's the matter with him—booze?" asked the shipping clerk. This was the only normal ailment the shipping clerk could comprehend.

"No, I think it's just spring fever," replied Johnson, the cashier. "I see them take iron for their blood."

The cashier, who was a caged man, didn't need iron for his blood; he had it all around him all the year around. "I see them kinks get that way this time of year ever since I've been here," remarked the shipping clerk. "When it comes March and then April—well, then they sure gets daffy."

"Tis the boyhood of the year that puts us all on the qui vive," said Mr. Jarr.

"Not me it don't!" replied the shipping clerk. "Spring don't make no difference to me. Only I'm wondering if all them professional ball players is going to be drafted. If so maybe some new blood will get a chance. I got a brother that the scouts is liable to pick up. There's a kid who is some ball player. And that reminds me, my kid brother belongs to a semi-pro nine that is all busted up on account of the draft, too. There was Louie, the Wop, who run an elevator right in this building. There's a jockey that has a sure eye and if he was coached by a professional would be a comer in the box. He's got a fast straight that's like a machine gun. And his splitter would fool Ty Cobb. Well, if they put that guy to throwing them hand grenades in the trenches there will

they left I stood on the platform until another St. Elmo car came, and I found that when the car turned on the curve the back end of the car swung six or eight inches over the platform. W. J. GLADISH, SR., Chattanooga, Tenn., March 18, 1918.

## BITS OF INFORMATION

"Grandmother dead" was the excuse wired in by 184 recruits at the Great Lakes training station who overstayed holiday leave.

M. Mauduy, a French naturalist, saw in 1822 a heavy shower of rain in large drops, mixed with loads the size of a walnut.

A new incubator hatches chicks by the heat of an electric light under a glass bell in which the eggs are placed.

The eyes of a South American fish are divided into two parts, the upper, for vision in the air, the lower for use under water.

A bullet-throwing weapon has been made in the shape of a watch. Called on to surrender your watch, you use it to shoot the thief.

Uruguay has a commission to investigate a scheme to turn the locust pest into fertilizer, soap, lubricants and stock food.

Fifteen million people in this country are shoveling coal, of whom one-fourth are firemen on railroads or in power plants. In a day they have converted 2,300,000 tons of coal into ashes.

It once was recorded that during a severe hailstorm at Boving, eight miles east of Yokohama, Mass., a rooster turtle six by eight inches, entirely cased in ice, fell with the hail.

On land in Oklahoma allotted to Jackson Barnett, a Creek Indian, and on which he never did a stroke of work, oil was discovered. Jackson's income is said to be \$20,000 a month from oil royalties.

King George rules over more Mohammedans than the sultan of Turkey, more Jews than there are in Palestine, and more negroes than any other sovereign not a native of Africa.

## BENN MESSENGER SERVICE

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takes of the daylight saving proposition.

"The way to do a thing is to do it right. Go buy a liberty bond when they are put upon the market" is the way the Tullahoma Guardian sees the duties of its readers.

"The war secretary and his work are not nearly so bad as some of those eastern papers recently would have had the people believe," according to the Rockwood Times.

The Cleveland Banner serves the following notice upon Mr. Hoover: "We are willing to eat corn bread right on up 'til blackberry time, but we'll be switched if we don't have a little flour and sugar then."

The Cleveland Herald notes the statement that many more people are going to raise poultry and declare: "People in the cities are learning that it will not do to depend altogether on going to market for kitchen supplies."

"Don't tell it on the other fellow unless it is absolutely necessary and then tell as little as you can. It's bad enough at best," is a suggestion offered by the Houston Post with respect to electioneering tactics.

Exactness of statement is a feature insisted upon by the Memphis Commercial Appeal, which says: "Sometimes the camouflage is so complete that you have to say a kissed a girl on the complexion instead of on the cheek."

On the prospects of peace, the Kingsport Times expresses itself as follows: "Until Germany loses territory and valuable stores, either on the western front or on the eastern, then, and not till then, will she really want peace."

Of course, it is merely neighborly solicitude which causes the Nashville Banner to make such queries as the following: "Now that Texas is to be bone-dry, where will Col. George Bailey, of the Houston Post, go to wet his parched whistle?"

The following from the Bristol Herald-Courier has a strangely familiar appeal, which says: "Profiteer who didn't protest that he was losing money, or barely making expenses? And the bigger the profiteer, the louder he protests!"

We trust the invention referred to in the following from the Jackson Sun will not fall into the hands of the enemy: "The invention of the aerial torpedo which will find its mark at a distance of 400 miles all that is needed with reference to the enemy is the address."

In the course of an appreciation of the bankers, the Columbia Herald has the following to say: "If all other classes of business had been as liberal as the bankers, when the whole war cause would this nation would be a long way farther on its road to victory than it is now."

The people must be slow of heart to believe according to the following from the Memphis News-Scimitar: "The fuel administrator says he wants to educate the people to the necessity of saving coal. We wonder what lesson he can teach more impressive than a price of \$3 to \$10 a ton."

Sammy's performances on the firing line are played up as follows by the McMinnville Standard: "A lone American soldier put a squad of forty Germans to flight. He killed the leader at the first shot, wounded two or three others, when the whole squad took to their heels. In every brush with the American troops so far the Germans have been worsted."

We are not certain whether the editor of the South Pittsburg Hustler had just been visiting the spring millinery openings when he intimated the following patriotic suggestion: "If time is opening when the enemy plumage will be a badge of dishonor to the American woman. Keep smiling, but quit this luxurious living. Buy war savings stamps."

In recording its preference for whole-wheat flour rather than a white flour mixture for war bread, the Union City Commercial declares: "Wheat should not be milled and bolted down to the heart of the grain when people are starving for food and the success of the allied armies depend upon our foodstuffs. A whole wheat flour is eminently more palatable, healthier and better a thousand times than this mongrel mixture they are making."

Somebody presented the sage of the Pulaski Citizen with a half dozen fine apples and that set him to thinking that apples, as well as a great diversity of other things, might be produced in Glen county. In concluding an editorial, he says: "The greater the variety of employment and production, the greater the prosperity of any country. Where everybody produces one thing there is no market for that product and everybody is wanting to buy everything else. But where there is great variety of production there is a better market for local products."

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